

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ACDA-07 /110 W

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R 100319Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1562

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6043

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, XF

SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF MIDDLE EAST VOTE AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: USUN 6031

1. AS NOTED REFTTEL, SYRIAN RES ADOPTED AT THIS GA ON
MIDDLE EAST ITEM WAS COMPARABLE TO RES 3414 ADOPTED LAST
YEAR. VOTE OF 91-11-29 CAN BE COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR'S
VOTE OF 84-17-27. NEGATIVE VOTE LOSS CAME FROM SHIFTS
TO ABSTENTION OR ABSENCE BY BARBADOS, BELGIUM, DOMINICAN REP.
HAITI, LIBERIA AND LUXEMBOURG.

2. ADDITIONAL AFFIRMATIVE VOTES ON THIS YEAR'S RES RESULTS
FROM SHIFTS FROM ABSTENTION TO YES BY ARGENTINA, CAR,
GRENADA, PANAMA, TOGO AND FROM ABSENCE TO YES BY BOTSWANA,
MALDIVES, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, AND ZAIRE. TWO SHIFTS
IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION, BY BRAZIL TO ABSTENTION FROM YES
AND BY DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA TO ABSENCE FROM YES, MAKE
NET GAIN OF SEVEN IN AFFIRMATIVE VOTES.

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3. THREE MEMBERS (BAHAMAS, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SURINAM) WHO WERE ABSENT LAST YEAR ABSTAINED THIS YEAR, WHILE GABON SHIFTED FROM ABSTENTION TO ABSENCE, RESULTING IN NET GAIN OF TWO ABSTENTIONS. TWO NEW MEMBERS (ANGOLA AND SEYCHELLES) WERE BOTH ABSENT.

4. COMMENT: NET LOSS IN SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL REFLECTED IN ABOVE VOTE, PLUS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT GIVEN EGYPTIAN RES, PROBABLY STEMMED FROM THREE PERCEPTIONS THAT APPEAR TO US TO BE FAIRLY FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AMONG BROAD RANGE OF DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING MANY WEO'S AS WELL AS NON-ALIGNED. BASED ON OUR GLEANINGS FROM THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE AND CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS, AS WELL AS STATEMENTS IN DEBATE, WE IDENTIFY THESE AS FOLLOWS: A) THE ARABS' CLAIM THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO MODERATE THEIR POSITIONS HAS BEEN ACCEPTED; B) MANY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE PALESTINIANS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN SOME WAY IN PEACE EFFORTS, INCLUDING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE; AND C) ISRAEL'S BEHAVIOR IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES INDICATES TO MANY THAT ISRAEL INTENDS TO RETAIN PERMANENTLY AT LEAST SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS OF THESE AREAS.

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